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**11/13/19**

**DTC 375 Language, Texts and Technology**

**Activity 13.1 (Pop Test #11)**

**Directions: Choose one of the topics below and write a 250-word response. Please bring in at least two outside resources, one of which can come from our readings during the semester.**

1. What is the future of proprietary software? Why?

As we’ve seen in recent years proprietary software has remained relevant but has lost the grip it once had. We saw similar situations happen with Newspaper and its fall when digital media began to pick-up. This isn’t to say there hasn’t been some push back from both companies and communities as Scott Matteson notes “Why would programmers work for free?” (Matteson, Scott) the answer will vary depending on the person, but the consensus seems to be that programmers want to be free of the cookie-cutter style that is offered by proprietary businesses like Microsoft. In order to achieve this people have begun to turn to open software such as Linux which allows users to customize their experience as well as the overall application of the software, given that they know how to use it. Additionally, the rise of things like Bitcoin have shed a new light on these types of software or in the case of Bitcoin a currency based on an open source kernel which provides the most secure form of currency to-date, as Taylor Armerding mentions in a Forbes article “A single word—more” (Armerding, Taylor.) This is what the current trend for open source software shows. Again, this seems due to the nature of the software being readily available, customizable, and of course free to its users. While open source software is possible without proprietary software, there is an argument to be made that proprietary software and the companies that employ it would be left with few tools and more problems than utilizing it which could result in a transformation into another type of software entirely.

**Works Cited**

Matteson, Scott *TechRepublic,* Mar. 1st, 2018**.**

<https://www.techrepublic.com/article/how-to-decide-if-open-source-or-proprietary-software-solutions-are-best-for-your-business/>

Armerding, Taylor *Cybersecurity/Forbes*, Jan. 9th, 2019.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/taylorarmerding/2019/01/09/the-future-of-open-source-software-more-of-everything/#104f483168fa>